

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

JULY 16, 2013

SUBJECT:

2013-2014 Title I Focus Funds

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

According to the Elementary and Secondary Act Waiver submitted by the state of South Carolina to the US Department of Education and approved on July 19, 2012, schools who have significant achievement gaps among subgroups are classified as Focus Schools. These schools are required to offer parents the option to transfer their student to a non-classified school, and students who do not meet standard on state assessments are offered Supplemental Educational Services. Schools must also develop a Challenge to Achieve Plan to address achievement gaps, and an allocation is received to implement strategies based on school needs. Aiken County's allocation for this purpose is \$624,737. Aiken Elementary, J.D. Lever Elementary, North Aiken Elementary, North Augusta Elementary, and Paul Knox Middle and Schofield Middle are Focus Schools.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION:

The Division of Instruction and Accountability worked with school administration and Title I planning teams to develop strategies to address identified needs. These funds will be used to fund instructional coaches, reading interventionists, additional guidance support, and professional development in the classified schools.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the use of the Title I Focus funds and the implementation of the strategies for the 2013-2014 school year.

PREPARED BY:

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